From Our Own Reporter. New-York, June 18, 1857.

The letter which was to have been begun on the Mississippi and finished at Niagara, I find myself just putting pen to here in New-York. Why this is, who ever has traveled seven consecutive days without finding himself between Christian sheets, or has for three days eaten what the captain of a Mississippi boat sets before his guests, or has felt the great cataract and the rapids altogether too much for him, can readily imagine. Others may guess.

In order to "do" St. Paul within the stipulated time, it was necessary to leave St. Louis the very morning after the celebration, while our first impressions of the city-which are, perpaps, as true as any the traveler receives-were still fresh. New-York seemed to see almost reproduced in this thriving metropolis of the Mississippi Valley, which, although in a Slave State, has an air of Freedom in the activity of its business, the character of its population, and the tone of society. None; indeed, but an essentially free city could have made the Railroad Celebration what it was.

At many points in the course of my journey was I, indeed, impressed with the essentially Anti-Slavery character of the West. Men from "Egypt" genuine Egyptian Suckers I found, who look upon Slavery right sensibly from an economical point of view, speaking of it as a blight upon the country and contra-ting lows with Missouri in that lands in the one sell at double the prices of those within a river's breadth in the other. In a St. Louis hotel, too, I chanced upon . Southerner, who said that he had been "raised at the breast of a slave woman," but was telling some home truths to a waif of the Know Nothing Convention, a friend and fellow-citizen of Erastus Brooks. At Cincinnati I was struck by a fact similar to that mentioned by my Hoosier friend. In company with Gol. Twho owns balf of Newport, Kentucky-2,000 acres is the heart of the town and along the Licking-I went to the top of a house whence was the finest view of Cincinnati to be had anywhere. Thence we saw a valley stretching from our very feet to the mountains up which Cincinnati was slexly trying to climb. We at once said: "Why, this valley is one; the finest and largest portion of it is on this side of the river; this " side has superior advantages; Cincinnati must grow " hitherward instead of crawling up hill." But, no; he was sure it could only be a suburb-a drawer of water and hewer of wood for Circinnati. Why, but because Freedom moors all the steamboats to Ohio wharves ! Were I the first voyager on the Mississippi, I would

try my hand at describing some of those grand bluffs between which it more or less leisurely flows; I would speculate upon the history of the columns of limestone which give almost every one of these bluffs which they crown the appearance of half-overgrown castles, and would try to set forth how neatly, whenever the hills recede, a village is dropped into the plain which they leave. But are there not guide-books? The worst thing about the Mississippi is its water; but for which it would be perfect. But pure, i. e. impure and half-and-half mud Mississippi in tumblers, or quite as bad, decocted into tea, is intolerable, and results in parched lips and Summer complaint. Missi-sippi and brandy we could stomach, though even that was unpalatable. We were surprised to see so little characteristic Mississippi life on the boats. No racing, on gambling: emigrants and tourists have taken away the romance of the river, and the high-pressure engines merely puff along from one stopping-place to another, the boats running their huge flat bottoms ashore when occasion requires. The Orb, in which we came down the river, was a chance boat, which, after advertising to start on Sunday, and ringing her bell at intervals for two days, finally got under way at 9 o'clock Tuesday evening. At the end of the first three miles, she stopped to wood-up, a matter of time. Twenty more, and she ran ashore, and stayed there three or four hours, to enable the Captain to do up some unfinished business. Morning found us but sixty miles from the point of departure. Then came a head-wind, which embarrassed the Orb, especially as she was a stern-wheeler. When we got to Lake Pepin, an expansion of the river, some forty miles long and four-or five wide, its scenery reminding one of Lake Champlain, the Captain inadvertently landed a passenger on a lee-shore. In the attempt to head own stream again, we expended three hours, the Orb revolving fruitlessly on her axis all that time. N. B .- The wary traveler should always select a chance boat and a stern-wheeler.

St. Authony's Falls are not what one would expect of the Mississippi. They are little more than a continuation of the Ranids a series of irregular jumps with some foam and noise. And now they are so crowded by saw and flouring mills, as to make a much poorer show than they must have done years ago. The Falls of Minnehaha, on a small creek emptying into the Mississippi about midway between St. Paul and St. Anthony's, inspire a fresh interest in Hiawatha. The fall is about seventy feet, and reminds one of the Catskill Falls, except that Minnehaha is more exquisitely beautiful. Literally laughing water she is, a merry girl, tripping down hill. She does not surprise, she charms you and you linger and linger to make her better acquaintance

St. Paul is finely situated upon two plateaus, the lower whereof is used for business streets, while the other is beginning to be detted with handsome residences The whole town rests upon a bed of lime stone, lying in layers so that cellars are perfect. Much has been said about the climate of Minnesota. I can youch for it as most excellent in Summer. In the neighborhood of St. Paul the air is as bracing as among mountains, and keeps one in a constant state of exhilaration. The Winters are, by universal testimony on the spot, though long—the river is usually closed from late Nolabe May-and cold, very dry, so that the temperature is less severe in point of feeling, though lower by the thermometer than in New-York. Prof. Maury has recently stated that but eight inches of snow fall a month on the average, deduced from official observations. In Summer, the rains mostly come in the night, accompanied by magnificent displays of lightning, one of which we had the good fortune to see on the Mississippi; it was certainly one of the fin est things of the kind upon which I ever set eyes.

St. Paul is worth seeing, for it epitomises the West. In its business streets, land-offices alternate with grogshops. The clerk in a hardware store has saved something out of his \$500 a year, and put it in real estate. The German, only a year in the country, whom the stable-keeper sends as your driver, has a claim of twenty-five acres up river. Everybody is a freeholder, and almost everybody borrows to become so, though money is at 40 per cent. In the town, which was of fered less than a dozen years ago, to a Dutchman down the river, for two barrels of whisky and a half barrel of peach-brandy, and refused at those terms by him, a little dog-hole of a store reats at \$500 a year, and corner lots sell at incredible prices. Splendid hotels are full to the caves with one class, while anothe lives on a corner of its property and drives its own carriage. The horses are as fine and the ledies as showily-dressed as in any place one can name. And when there is sleighing, I am told, the hand-somest turnouts in the world are to be seen here. Stores are open almost all night and people give them selves little or no time to breathe. In so fast a place there is, of course, no leisure to attend to the streets. The stranger who strolls up the principal business avenue running along the river, is warned not to wall off "the cliff," and in his anxiety to avoid that result, finds himself precipitated down a chasm which yawns in the midst of the street and through which little brook flows as though used to it. The streets would, indeed, throughout challenge comparison with there of New-York.

In taking the customary drive to St. Anthony and Minneapolis, which lie on opposite banks of the river some eight miles above St. Paul, and are—the latter, which is only three years old, especially-very fastgrowing towns, one cannot but wonder how these

FROM ST. LOUIS TO ST. PAUL AND NEW- towns-people are to be kept alive; where their food is | had gone down the Missouri or across the country. to come from. On the magnificent plateau, comprising an area of from twenty to thirty square miles of the finest arable land, which lies between Minneapolis and Fort Spelling, there are not more than 25 farm-houses away from the villages, and the disproportion between the town and the country is almost as great nearer St. Paul. Throughout the West I was struck with the tendency to run to villages, even on the prairies the isolated houses appearing to be few and far between. The Michigan famine will not be long without its fellows if the consumers are to outnumber the producers to so alarming an extent as they would seem to do now in the West of the West. The mania for possessing land will soon, it is earnestly to be hoped, give place to a mania for tilling that already in possession. Speculation in real estate is meaningless in the highest sense if the real estate speculated in be not used for the purposes for which it was created. The greatest agricultural country in the world, in parts of which corn dropped into the fresh-turned turf as it lies, and not hoed at all, yields one hundred bushels to the acre, must speedily meet with him who will not subdue the soil, but use what he find subdued to his hand. What has occurred in the older Western States makes such a result a matter of course in time. Will it arrive soon enough? One would say not, judging from the emigration that sets thatherward. In the day and a half that we were coming down the Mississippi we met half a dozen boats, every inch of which was filled by a passenger. A Milwaukee paper estimates this year's emigrante into Wisconsin at one hundred thousand, and in Min nesota and Iowa they will doubtless be twice as many.

At the table this consumer-and producer question stares one in the face fearfully. Who shall feed a people that eats like this Western people? Not for love of it at all apparently, with little or no choice or relich of food, but as a thing to be done, and to be done quickly. As you go further West, the cars stop less and less time for meals, until the half-hour for dinner is shortened to a matter of ten minutes. But no one has a right to complain, in a country where the majority governs. Most of the passengers are impatient of even a ten-minute disner, and may be seen picking their teeth with their forks or squirting tobacco juice, their appetites fully satisfied, some moment before the whistle is heard. From Cincinnati, via St. Paul, to Ningara, scarcely a meal did I take it hotel or steamboat, where several relays of eaters had not come and gone, while I was still discussing my food in manner and form as I was brought up to do In Chicago the waiters humored the fashion of the fast people, making slow ones like us wait meanwhile by serving the dessert at the same time with the sour and meats, as if to bridge over with charlotte russe possible interval between boiled and roast. How I wish Dickens could give us an annual number of notes

on America! Nor is this centralizing tendency of the West beneficial to the character of its inhabitants. Many of the prairie villages, along the line of the Illinois Central. for example, are dwelt in by the roughest of the rough, who seek excitement in fights with the railroad operatives, at the circus, and in deep potations of brandy, the best quality whereof sells at 371 cents per gallon, and whisky, four gallons of which are sold for a dollar. Men need the stimulus of farming, the genial presence of women, and the invigorating influence of more out-of-door pursuits.

Of course I have been speaking of tendencies, and have put extreme instances. There is another side of the matter of which less need be said, because it is a view common among Eastern people. To many the West is all sunshine, -no lottery, but a high and straight road to fortune, -the skies as fair and the people as excelling as the soil is rich and the scenery splendid. Such would be almost my own feeling as regards those parts of the country where civilization has had time to crystalize, and one can see everywhere signs that the whole advances to that ideal state. The masses of the people are in some respects much better than ours, more frank, outspoken and hearty. They seem more true than we of the East. they give themselves time to think, talk and enjoy, they would speedily be molded into one of the best classes of men. Numerous are the villages which delight the stranger by their picturesqueness of situs tion, or the taste which has laid them out. But among them all. Madison, the capital of Wisconsin, bears away the palm. I can well understand how an acquaintance of mine, a young man just entering upon the practice of the law, should, merely on the strength of a sunset view of the village as she sits between her two lakes, all embowered in trees, decide to make his home there, though with no previous intention of leav-

On my way homeward I passed through well-known places and saw familiar sights. At Chicago I went over one of the immense grain warehouses, capable of containing six or seven hundred thousand bushels. At Detroit we found the low, irregular, old-fashioned and republican brown house of Gen. Cass, and saw him in his study at work.

In the course of my wanderings, I fell in with an intelligent old man, fresh from Kansas. Originally from New-York, he had lived all along the Mississippi Valley as low down as Texas. Latterly h. had farmed it in Michigan, whence he emigrated to Kansas last April with seventy of his neighbors. They, with so other party which joined them there, located their claims on the Neosho, in the southerly part of the Territory. Mary took their wives and children with them, while others came back for theirs. My friend, whose opportunities of observation I state in order to give his opinion more weight, regards Kansas as the finest country in the world. It is exceedingly well watered, every stream being fringed with a heavy growth of oak, black walnut, &c., to a width of from To rods to a mile, and in the main it consists of rolling prairie. The soil is exceedingly fertile, bearing 100 bushels of corp to the acre, when first plowed. Some of it is as rich as the American Bottoms of the Missis sippi. The old man showed me a Kansas hickory nut bear out his assertions, which was bigger than an English shagbark, and could have swallowed three or four hickories such as the boys sold through the cars.

I inquired with regard to the character of the popu lation and the necessity of carrying fire-arms. He answered-and herein would seem to lie the explanation of many of the contradictory accounts one hearsthat a distinction was to be taken. Along the border line, at such places as Leavenworth City, Lawrence, &c., there were undoubtedly many desperadoes in the Free-State as well as the Pro-Slavery party, politica adventurers and real estate speculators-men whom the exigencies and roughness of a border warfare, as well as the gambling tendencies of a new country had called into activity and endowed with a temporary importance. Among them a person would do well to be cautious, and would naturally arm biroself. An other gentleman with whom I conversed, who visited this part of Kansas, observed that he never saw a set of men so thoroughly armed as at Leavenworth. But my Neosho settler said that it was very different when one got away from the cities. His own party had but five or six rifles in all, and not a single pistol, so far as he knew. There was no speculation in real estate in the country, but people went to work at once. What settlers be met with were of the best men in the world the bone and sinew of New-York, Iowa, Michigan and Ohio, chiefly-just the men to go into the new Territory and make it a Free State. The emigration from the above named States was enormous. Frequently at nightfall he would count on the patch of prairie within his horizon tifteen or twenty tents. pitched by different parties, on their way to locate claims. My other informant rendered similar testimony. He was struck at seeing fine, stalwart, six-foot fellows, sometimes with, sometimes without families, striking into the prairies, frequently carrying only a rifle, a hoe, a revolver and a basket, and, thus simply, beginning civilization. Thirty thousand people had, he said, according to the records in St. Louis, taken the Pacific Railroad from St. Louis this Spring, and twenty thousand more

Both agreed that the Free-State party was overwhelm ingly in the majority. My traveling informant, who is a New-Yorker, surprised as he was to see Kansas no infant, but a lusty stripling, who had already strangled the serpent sent in to destroy her, was quite as much surprised to see the decrepitude into which Missouri had fallen. People who once made forays into Kansas to do its voting, have now moved there to help do its business, finding none to do over the border line. Weston and the adjoining towns are all but deserted. If Misseuri would not be outd are by her Mung sister even before she is admitted into the Union, she must follow the example of St. Louis by electing an Emancipation Governor and Legis-

CENTRAL MINNESOTA.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. HENDERSON, Sibley Co., Minnesota, June 10, 1857.

I do not remember seeing in your paper any full notice of the valley of the Minnesota River. As a resident of that region, and as one fully identified with its prosperity, I propose to bring to the notice of your readers a tract of country which has been truly styled the garden of Minnesota. Following the river road from St. Paul up, after passing Shekape, a town 25 miles from St. Paul, the traveler is never out of sight of the big woods, the largest body of timber in Minnesota; and for 15 miles this road is altogether in the woods. Near the edge of this body of timber, lies the place from which I date my letter. East and south-east of us, for 30 miles, lies an unbroken forest, in which every eligible location is already taken. To the west lie a hedy of prairie that for fertility cannot be surpass ed. The road running west from this place passes for the first four and a half miles, through light tim ber and brushy openings. Upon the open prairie the road branches off to Fort Ridgely, west 40 miles, and to Glencoe, north-west 25 miles. these roads lie in sight of timber, and in traveling the whole length of either no difference can be per ceived in the quality of the prairie. The whole in safely be marked as number one. For the two last-mentioned points, Henderson is

the most convenient landing place. The great want of the country at present is good roads. The set-tler soon gets up a cabin sufficient for his family; if prudent, he brings with him a stock of clothing and means to buy provisions, but the roads over which he must haul his stuff to his new home are, in a rainy season, apt to be execrable. A few long sloughs, which it is impossible to get around, ef-fectually spoil the road for loaded teams, and for the as an embarge upon transportation in er. With the exception of these, our wet weather. With the exception of these, our prairie roads, after the turf is worn off, are as good as if they were planked. These sloughs, though a nuisance to teamsters in their unimproved state, are nuisance to teamsters in their unimproved state, are nevertheless of great use to the farmer, inasmuch as he looks entirely to them for his supply of hay. They, as well as the creek bottoms, are generally covered with long wild grass of the finest quality, which is considered by many scarcely inferior to timethy. These natural meadows are se profusely scattered through the woods and over the prairies. that there is scarcely a quarter section that is not provided with good mowing land at the very start. They have, to the eye of the stranger, rather a discouraging look; but I never knew a farmer of two years' residence to complain of them. A traveler who ascends the Minnesota River upon a steamboat, and looks at the tall, coarse grass upon the river bottoms, may possibly think he has seen a specimen of our best wild grasses. In this he is mistaken; they grow upon higher ground. To find them, he must go at least a mile back from the river, and thence follow up the creeks and brooks. frequently meander through meadows covered with wild red-top and blue-joint, sufficiently extensive, in many instances, to winter a hundred head of cattle. The best emigrant, in my opinion, is a newly-

married man. Bachelors get scurvy fashion, and traveling expenses and provision bills fall heavily upon those who come into a new country with large families of young children. Perhaps it is uscless to state that help is scarce, almost impossible to be had, both male and female. It is difficult to find competent girls who will work in a public house at \$3 per week. An offer of \$1.75 per day does not readily bring to your door a man who will assist you in getting in your crops. The young man is apt to be intent on making a claim for himself, and the young weman prefers staying at home, and earning as much or more in her allotted place upon the farm than her wages as a hireling I have often been amused at new comers who go

into a well-settled neighborhood and inquire whether a claim cannot be had close by, having timber, prairie and water. They seem entirely to overlook the fact that this is a first-class clai ally the perquisite of the pioneer. My usual reply these gentry, that such claims can be had going beyond settlements and becoming pioneer themselves, seems rather to damp their courage. have known men with families to quit the country find return home, because they could not find a first class claim in a well-settled neighborhood already provided with good stores, good society, and a well-organized school district. If you have not the courage to strike out into the wilderness, buy out the pioneer's well-earned location, by paying him in hard eash for having done that which you shrink from

doing yourself.

It is difficult to give statistics with regard to crops. Grain is high at present, in consequence of a long Winter. Corn and oats now readily bring \$1.50 per bushel; potatoes have ranged this Spring from \$1 to \$2 per bushel. Seed corn is very difficult to I would advise farmers to bring with procure. them enough of good yellow flint for their own plant-ing. I consider it the best corn for this country. Many object to it for feeding whole, as being too hard. For my own part, I would willingly use hand-mill, if no other was to be had, for the sake of growing a description of grain that was shre to ripen in all seasons. We are liable here to a very short season. Farmers are now replanting where their corn has failed through a backward Spring and cold rains, and should we have a killing frost on the 13th or 19th of September, both of which have occurred in the last six years, I cannot but think that these late plantings, if of the large kind of corn, will have a poor chance for ripening. Still, good crops have been repeatedly raised of the yellow crops have been redent. I speak only lent. I speak only of sureness. The farmer who it is in the milk, to stand by his field, gun in hand, or else make up his mind to allow the blackbirds to gather one-half of his crop. In the present scarcity of farms this pest is severely felt, and may be conidered as enhancing the price of grain fully 25 per

A word as to society. A residence of nearly seven years upon the frontier has painfully convinced me of the fact that the first-class citizen rarely emigrates. It his been a sore disappointment to me. oderate their expectations. Let the man who hit ks of emigrating West come with the determina tion to be a first-class citizen himself. Do not ex-pect to find society already formed to your hand. For this you must constantly work, and sometime Those counter influences which at home you saw give way before public sentiment, here aspire in some instances to the position of that very public sentiment. Rowdyism is more apt to dictate than to

We have had this Spring a good season of steam beat navigation. The Minnesota still affords a good stage of water, and, to judge from the continual rains, may be expected to remain up six weeks lenger. Then comes steamboat navigation as far s the Rapids, fifty miles from Saint Paul, and keel be ats (or very small steamboats) from the Rapids up. Good steamboating for half the season of naviation is as much as we ordinarly expect.

The Land Office for this district has recently

been removed to Henderson. This has its good and bad effects. Settlers in the neighborhood of this place can now perfect their preëmptions without making a journey of one hundred miles; but, on the other hand claims have been jumped which would never have been troubled so long as the contestant must make with his witnesses a long and

Good claims can be had twelve miles west of this place, either all prairie or all timber. Those wish-

ing to take claims and move out in the Fail with their families, have now an excellent opportunity for doing so. There is no danger of losing them during a temporary and necessary absence, provided preper improvements are made. A settler who will break a few acres upon a claim, put up a habitable of the land of the la shanty, file a declaratory statement in the Land Office, and then set out for his family, will be indulged in any reasonable time for so necessary an absen A distinction is made between absence and abandoment, and it is very difficult to oust the first claimant, when his subsequent course shows the settlement to be bona fide. The Register and Receiver of our Land Office are deservedly popular. They are theroughly accommodating. Their office hours, when business is pressing, comprise the whole twenty-four, excepting the time reserved for eating

and sleeping.

We have an abundance of material for brickmaking. This also would be a paying enterprise. Wood, dry and seasoned, and lying upon the ground, is plenty in the forests; clay is found in our ravines and the flats drained by them. The presence of a limestone peoble sometimes spoils the brick, by forming lime, which bursts it in slaking: but enough pure clay can be had for all the brick that is needed. A good article at present commands \$12 per M. Brick must eventually become our principle building material. Upon forty acres of Minnesota timber land it is much easier to find wood enough to burn the brick for a house of given dimensions than sawegs sufficient to build it of good lumber.

NOTES ON THE MAURITIUS.

I.-THE VOYAGE THITHER.

It was cheerless enough to leave the pleasant town of Nantes, where we had been received with so much true kindness and generous hospitality, and betake ourselves, on a dull, dismal, misty morning in February, on board a small steamboat for the little town of Paimbouf, one of the ports of Nantes, St. Nazaire being the other. We found many thips there waiting for a fair wind-only one, however, being bound, like ourselves, for the lonely Isle of Mauritius, known to all lovers of romance as the Isle of Paul and Virginia.

On a bright, sunny day, Paimbouf is a pleasant little town, with a long street on the edge of the water, at the end of which, extending into the sea, is a hill where a man is stationed to watch for vessels. On this hill is a shrine to the Virgin, and here are the first joyous greetings, and here the last sad partings. A sweeter or sadder spot one cannot easily find. Far out on the blue sea flies the receding bark, bearing the hopes of that sad group, prevented by their tear-blinded eyes from seeing what is now the home of their loved ones. Very sad it is to watch them, as with heavy hearts and weary steps they turn toward the shrine, and sang before the Virgin their little wreaths of early violets that they had almost forgotten, and we in volunterily vail our faces as they bow in prayer.

Our pretty landlady (the widow of a sea captain) went daily to this shrine, to pray, as had been her wont when her cherished husband was at sea, and very sad she always looked when she returned. One morning she took me to her room to show me the portrait of her husband, before which, in a small vase, was a bouquet of early violets, and there teld me of her happy life. Poor thing, so young, a gentle, so sad, and yet so resigned and patient Many months had her husband been absent; but one Summer's morning as she made her usual pilgrim-age, she knew that her prayers had been answered. or the good ship H. had entered the bay; but ere it had rounded the point, the joyous wife lay sense less at the shrine, a broken-hearted widow.

We were detained several days at Paimbouf, and had time, when there was a glimpse of sunshine, to look about the town. We were surprised to see the grass green, the salads growing, and the wall flowers holding up their heads, notwithstanding the cold weather. But although very damp and chilly, they rarely have severe frests. The dampness, however, is more disagreeable than extreme cold, and it seems mpossible for any fuel to warm one. There is of course t Paimbouf, as in all other small towns, a street where are the shops. In these one can be provided with mattresses made of a kind of sea-weed (very comfortable things, by the way), tin bowls, pitchers, Ac.: also, quaint hats and bonnets, to say sothing of heavy wooden shees (in which the inhabitants of the town seem greatly to indulge), and all the other necessaries for a long voyage. After having supplied ourselves with the usual requisites, we wandered on to look at the Lavoir, in which the Paimbœuñans take great pride. This Lavoir is a large pond, with many flights of steps leading from the banks to the Beside each flight of steps is a large flat stone, and on these the people can wash and scrub to their heart's content, and then stretch their clothes on the green fields near them to dry. We saw many groups of light-hearted women returning home bundles of clothes on their shoulders, and a little child pulling at their gowns or holding their hands, while the careful elder sister or aunt who had taken care of the "toddling wee things" all the day, was busy looking about to see if anything had

been left behind.

We saw a fine specimen of Norman beauty, the doughter of a wealthy farmer who came with her brother to spend the Sunday at our little hotel; and very pretty she looked, with her blue eyes, rosy checks and fair hair; very gay was the silk hand-kerchief around her neck, and very stately she sat in a huge arm-chair, with her feet on a small stove for she had been quite too grand to wear wooder shoes, and was fine lady enough to feel chilly. Her mly fear seemed to be lest the damp air or the sudden shower should take the stiffness out of her high-

erowned cap.

After several days of impatient waiting, the captain informed us he should tarry no longer for a fa wind to come around the Point, but should be towed out of the bay by a steamer. So, collecting what were to be for the next three months our household gods, we descended the beautiful and well-built quay, and soon found ourselves on board well-built quay, and soon found ourselves on board the good ship. Our captain had the reputation of being kind, generous and obliging: our fellow-pas-sengers seemed disposed to be agreeable: the day was clear and bright, and everything promised fair. One sad event took place, however, the first night out, which threw a gloom over the early part of our voyage. A severe storm came on about sunset, and increased rapidly. We were dashing on, 15 knots an hour, through a terrific sea, when a young man fell from the mast, and although two stout sailors tried to save him, it was impossible. The captain being at the helm, immediately put the ship about Hen-coops, &c., were thrown out, but all in vain He was the only son of his mother, and she a widow ed had been waiting three months to sail with our kind-hearted captain, who, to the end of the voyage,

ever ceased to regret his young friend.

The service on board French merchant ships dif-Ts semewhat from ours. Young men, well edu ated, serve as sailors, with the title of pilotante and cat in the cabin with the captain and passengers. They pass a very rigorous examination before beecing mates, and a still more strict one before being captains. The first mate on board our vesse was a man more than fifty years old, and the second mate more than forty. Either of them, in Ameri-

a, would have been captains years ago. Our passengers, as I have said, were a to be agreeable. There was Capt. H. M., Commander of the Port of Bourbon, who had been re freshing himself with a few months at Paris, and was now returning to Bourbon by the way of Mauage was tearly finished that there was no prospect of stopping at Bourbon. Capt. H. M. purported to be of an illustrious family, and to have lost a leg at the battle of Navarino, and to have been a frequent-er of the Faubourg St. Germain, the part of Paris inhabited by the old aristocracy. So he, of course had a right to take the opposite side in discussions and to come down very positively upon the captain for his fondness for garlies and onions—to insist that they were provincial tastes, and not tolerated in the Faubourg St. Germain.

Then there was B., nephew of the lady for whom the present Emperor of France, in days past, threw himself into a lake to recover her bouquet, which she had accidentally let fall, and which he, kneeling on the greensward, gallantly but drippingly pre-sented her. B. was fascinating, elegant, always amiable and obliging, whether enchapting us with his sweet singing, mimicking us to our faces, skinning an albatross, chasing the hens to get the new-laid eggs, or watching lest the poor cows should be worried by the degs. Delightful concerts we had, sweet moonlight nights-the captain, the young and handseme Count de C., and L., whose excet voice you must remember, all aiding. Then such learned discussions, and gay conversations, and grave ones- always something new and agreeable. I was perpetually wondering at the inexhaustible stock of knowledge on all subjects possessed by these Frenchmen, and the wealth of words always at command. To the very last hour on board the vessel, there was still something interesting and new to be spoken of.

Our cargo consisted of mules and cows; it was a our cargo consisted of thines and const, it was very valuable one, as only the most hardy of these animals can bear the long, hot voyage. Five of the cows were of the best Norman breed, and on the eighth day out the most beautiful of them died from the beat. "Whom the gods love die young." In the still evening she was consigned to a watery grave, while the glow-worms of the sea came forth with their silver-lighted torches, almost rivaling the

stars in brilliancy, to welcome her.

One of the mates had several cages of Canary birds, and as we passed the Isles the little creatures twittered and sung, as though they knew they were passing their ancestral homes, and praying to be set free. Very pretty and pleasant scemed the Canary Isles, and much we longed to go ashore, although we had been only a week at sea. One of the Isles resembles a church with a high tower, and as you re cede the illusion is perfect, until, while gazing, church and tower fade away in the dim twilight.

As we passed by Africa we had a shower of red sand from the Desert of Sahara, and as far as the eye could see was conteur de rose. It is said that the elevation of the Desert is gradually diminishing n consequence of the immense quantity of sand that s yearly blown into the sea.

Crossed the Line the 17th day out. In the morning speke a vessel, which proved to be the J---, bound for Rio, and commanded by a friend of our captain's, a very handsome, intelligent man, who dined with us, and left in the quiet evening, bearing with him our letters to the United States via Rio; the day for the sailors was a high holiday, and the novices in crossing the Line were of course show-ered with rain and pelted with hail (strongly resem-bling white beans) by some emissary of Neptune concealed in the stronger. But when night came on the sea-god himself, trident and all, was actually seen hevering about the ship, while blue lights were burning in all directions.

The weather until the 27th degree south was intensely hot. Our cabin was so uncomfortable that we dined on deck, enjoying at the same time the fresher air and the gorgeous sunsets which, in these latitudes, are beautiful beyond description. The clouds, particularly after a shower, take forms as of cities, with towers and castles. One night we saw what seemed to be a large lake surrounded with antique statues; another time there was a city with a large bay or harbor in blue and gold, and, as though to complete the illusion, two vessels ap-peared and sailed into the golden cloud, as though approaching the city, and thus disappeared. Once, so strong was the resemblance the clouds bore to town, that one of the passengers insisted that a mistake had been made by the captain, and that we were actually approaching the Isle of Bourbon.

One day we saw three water-spouts; the last one turned our ship completely round, and for

half a minute made a great commotion; but hap-pily it passed away without doing any serious injury. April 1.—We saw two large brown birds called cerdenniers (shoemakers), with wings larger than their bodies.

April 2.—Clouds at sunrise resembling the sunset-clouds of New-England at the commencement of

Autumn; saw many whales.

April 3.—Calmer; a shark caught with a hook, and a very beautiful looking fish it is, gray outside, and white underneath, and a most uninviting mouth.

A little fish, the remora, sometimes called pilot (as it is by some supposed to guide the shark), was near its mouth. The remora has a singular little instru-ment like a cup, by which it fastens itself to the Whether it is nourished by the shark's blood, or whether it shares the shark's dinner, is not yet decided, but the learned say there is no rea-

not yet decided, but the learned say there is no reason to consider it as a pilot.

For three weeks advanced slowly, many short calms: saw green clouds; strange birds flying around the versel; many were taken prisoners; some were eaten, some were stuffed, some died martyrs to science, some were set free, and some flew away.

One beautiful gray bird, as large as a crow, with green neck, black and yellow beak and claws, reserved for a museum in Mauritius, was accidentally emancipated. Many albatrosses were caught with a hock, and after satisfying the curiosity of the learned, igneminiously eaten by the sailors, who evidently had no fear of sharing the fate of the Ancient Mariner. Some of the albatrosses were perfectly white, iner. Some of the albatrosses were perfectly white, others of the most delicate shades of brown. The others of the most delicate shades of brown. The feathers under their wings are very beautiful, and the down on their bodies much thicker than on the swan. They have beautiful-shaped necks, and indeed look truly regal, and after being caught stand regarding their captors as stolid as Indians. A guard commodore was caught and stuffed. This bird is similar to the albatross, but much larger, being, I was told, the largest sea bird. The one in question was pure white, with the exception of a cravat of rose-colored feathers. Pretty black birds, with white breasts, the size of a pigeon, were constantly around the vessel. The sailors say that they are haunted by the souls of wicked captains, and now come begging food as their punishment. When they rested, or where they made their nests, was and

May 1, Sunday.—Sumptuous breakfast and dinner—the captain thinks it is our last Sunday on board.

May 2.—Great cleaning of the vessel. C. is very busy painting the coat of arms of Nantes, to put over the cabin door. Many land birds seen. B. in over the cabin door. Many land birds seen. B. in ecstasies, exclaiming, "A Paille en queue," and all the Mauritians rush on deck to see this beautiful lit-tie bird, said to be peculiar to the isles around Mau-ritius. Such waving of caps and handkerchiefs such shouts of joy at the sight of their compatriote, as they call it. It is the last thing that speaks of home as they leave their loved island, and the first to welcome them on their return to their native shores. Very, very strong is the attachment of the Mauritians to their beautiful, birthplace, and all had tears in their eyes as they watched the receding form of the little visitor.

form of the little visitor.

The Paille en queue is about the size of a small pigeon, perfectly white, with two long feathers in its tail of a straw color, hence its name, Paille en queue-straw in the tail. The birds from the Isle of Rodrigues have red feathers in their tails, but

Sinday, May 7.—A calm. Saw a besutiful red bird, large as an albatross, name unknown. In the sea, a great deal of the glutinous substance upon which the whales feed; some of it looks like globules of swellen sags; other particles like long fat

worms, of a pale red color.

Monday, May 3.—Lat. 28, lon. 54, ther. 78; a little wind. Encountered a ship, the A. from Nantes; the captain came on board. Our chronometer out of order; we are out of the way, but now hope go right.

Night.—Saw Scorpio. Orion sets a little be-

Night.—Saw Scorpho. Orion sets a little before 9, they seem like old friends; saw to advantage the constellation of the ship.

Reduceday, May 10—Good wind, but as we sailed slowly all night, did not see land until 9 o'clock on Thursday morning. This land proved to be one of the four little isles on the east of Mauritus. By

o'clock we had glimpses of the island, but the dends prevented our seeing it distinctly. We had a heavy squall and came very near being upset. Every man on board ran to help to pull at the ropes; the rain poured in torrents, and the ship danced or the waves like a cockle-shell. Everything was in confusion; go-ashore clothes, bundle, trunks, an ackages of every description rushed about in the wildest manner; but so happy were we that we were not wrecked, like poor Virginia, in sight of cur paradise, that we rejoicingly endeavored to restore order. As the roin ceased and the clouds cleared a little, we again went on deck and dis-tinctly saw the island with its trees of a deep, deep

green. As we turned around the point we saw the wonderful rock that bears so strong a resemblance at first to Napoleon, and afterward to Louis XVI. And then, while each one was trying to point out some well-remembered spot, the clouds shut down sgain, and the heavy rain compelled us to return to the cabin. We anchored about 7 o'clock in the

evening, five miles from the city of Port Louis, too

late for our telegraph to be seen, too late for the Health Officer to come on board, and not a little disappointed we unpacked various bundles, and pre-

Early, before the sun, we were all on deck, and amply compensated were we for any disappointment of the previous night, for there before us was Mauritius, fresh and fair and green as though newly created; its picturesque bills and mountains rising among the crimson clouds, ready to welcome the slowly ascending sun. The air was fraught with perfumes, not only of the thousand flowers, but that more delicious odor of the woods, only to be appreciated by those who have been many months at sea.

As the day advanced many boats, rowed by Indians, were seen dancing over the high waves. At length the long-expected Health Officer made his appear-

ance; and we were at last lowered into boats, and enabled to receive the greetings of those kind friends who had come out on that rough sea to escort us to the land. The wind blew, the spray dashed over us. Umbreallas were useless; nice hats and coats were drenched with salt-water. Romance was at a discount, and fortunate these who, sheltered by a

a biscount, could eccasionally obtain a peep at the levely scene around them.

That was a jeyful moment when we actually reached the shore, where a crowd was waiting to welcome the long-absent ones. Such embracing, such giving of thanks, and so many tears in the eyes of hearded men would never be seen on a public wharf in our matter-of-fact country.

How agreeable to be once more in a carriage—to see the grass growing by the roadside and the trees waving in the gentle breeze! How strange to see Indians and Chinese in the broad streets! How refreshing to enter the large, cool court-yard paved with stone—to hear the water dropping from a foun-tain into a tank at which some Indians in picturesque attire were cooling fruit! So ended the pleas-ant hall, with its shady verandah, and the table laden with fruits and flowers in the coolest corner. But more agreeable, more delightful, more refreshing was the cordial welcome bestowed on us by the beautiful Zulma, the only daughter of the abod friend who has invited us to reside in his house.

We received many such invitations to remain in the city, but decided to go to the country, where a pleasant home awaited us, and there recover from he fatigues of our long voyage.

THE GRASSHOPPER PEST OF MIN-

THEY MARCH SOUTHWARD LIKE A DE-STROYING ARMY.

We have heretofore noticed this new pest of the farmers in Minnesota, and the fact that they are marching South and East, and may sweep' over Wisconsin and Illinois in a year or two more. We now present an interesting letter, descriptive of the insect and its depredations, from a resident of that Territory: To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Sin: I propose to give you some account of the grasshoppers in Mit neasta. Is the first place then a slight description of "the animal" is necessary, as they differ in their habits materially from the insects bearing the same name in the Eastern States. When full grown they are about one and a half inch long, of a brownish-green color, with four wings, which enables them to fiv as easily as a hawk. They deposit their eggs in plowed ground in the Autuum, about three-fourths of an inch below the surface, in bundles of six or ten in number where they remain through ables them to fly as easily as a hawk. They deposite their eggs in plowed ground in the Autum, about three-fourths of an inch below the surface, in bundles of six or ten in number, where they remain through the Winter perfectly safe, until the warm sun and genial showers of Spring, when they seem to roll out of the ground like the rising of yeast. With their forcings they grasp the nearest object and commence kicking until they are free from the shell that has protected them through the months of Winter. When first batched they are nearly white and about one-fourth of an inch long, but soon turn to a dark brown. They are not great eaters at first, but seem to get 'veir subsistence from the moist earth. In about two weeks they double their size, and their wings begin to develop, although they do not use them until they are nearly full grown. When they are about one-half an inch long they commence feeding on the young corn, wheat or other grains, and if they are very numerous they reture nothing green that comes in their way, but show a preference to those plants which are ultivated. They commence their onward march early, and do not always destroy everything as they pass along, provided they see fresher and greener feed beyond. For instance, they have passed over my field of wheat, a distance of 30 rods, and have not eaten over two-thirds of it. Whether this is in consideration of the younger brood which is coming, or whether they prefer the young barley which they see in advance, I cannot tell, but presume it is the latter cause; for the advance guard, which have already reached the barley and young clover, show no such consideration, as they now eat clean as they go, and have in three days taken two-thirds of the field. Beans, turnips, onions, cabbage, and most of the garden vegetables, with the exception of peas thus far, seem particularly saited to their taste. Like the universal Yankee nation, they seem to be forever on the move, except the one is traveling west, the other east.

These differ from the commo

viz: cold, backward and wet Spring, late and rosts, and frequent thunder-showers. From all the information I can gather, these grasshoppers have traveled from Mexico through Utah, over the Rocky Mountains to the Red River of the North, where they Mountains to the Red River of the North, where they destroyed the crops for two years in succession. So thorough were they in their work that the inhabitants of Pembina and vicinity were obliged to go down to Pairie-du-Chien for seeds. They have the past Summer made great havoc along the Upper Mississippi River as far south as St. Anthony. Here accounts differ. Some say they came to Red River within two years; others say they have been seven years in making the journey. About 36 years ago, as I am informed by a Frenchman, who lived at Red River at that time, they developed the contract of the time of the contract of the time. by a Frenchman, who lived at Red River at that time, they destroyed the crup so that the settlers in that infant colony did not save their seed, but were obliged to live by hunting and fishing. You see how difficult it is to come at a correct history of them; and this is one object of my writing this, that those who may be visited by them in future, further south and east, if they continue their wanderings, may know something of their antecedents. They came here last August in such numbers that the air had the apprehence of a snow-storm. So thick were they in some semething of their antecedents. Buy cause last August in such numbers that the air had the appearance of a snow-storm. So thick were they in some places that the sun was darkened. They came after most of the wheat crop was harvested; the corn, most of it, was too hard for them, although they devoured all the leaves, leaving the bare stalk and ears; yet they were in senson to ship the leaves off the potatoes, destroy the turnips, beets, onions, buckwheat and most of the garden vegelables. This year they threaten to destroy every green thing. Unleas they take their departure soon there will be great suffering here, and if they move on soon they will probably destroy more in value, as the part of the country where they sow are has been settled later, and, being mostly in the timber, has a less number of acres in crop. But it is settled by a class who have less means to assist them through a year and a half of scarcity, if not of actual famine—as you are aware those who take up and improve wild land suffer a great deal of hardship and deprivation at best. All their energy is taxed to the utprove wild land suffer a great deal of naturing and de-privation at best. All their energy is taxed to the ut-most to get in a sufficient crop for their own wants and those of their small stock; add to this the fact that the two past years have been extremely dry, so that crops well got in and well tended (which is seldom the case) have follow much short of their owners, expectswell got in and well tended which is seldom the case)
have fallen much short of their owners' expectations. This Spring, although quite backward, gives
higher hopes of a good crup than any since I have
been in the erritory, were it not for this one plague
of Egypt, the grasshopper.

Medicine Loke, Hennepin Co., M. T., Jane 9, 1867.

"A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE."-The application of the spirit of this homely old proverb mu remembered by the maple-sugar makers who have been greatly prospered this season. A little work now, just as soon as you have done planting, if it has not yet been performed, in saving your sap-troughe, buckets, spiles, and all the utensils, will be exactly what is meant by a stitch in time. A day lost next Spring in providing what you may save now, may be worth more than nine days, however valuable at the present time; for then you may lose the first run of sap, and we have often noticed that when that is lost the whole season is suffered to go by default. For make sugar, either from maple trees or Southern cares, or from the new Chinese sugar-care, the planter must be ready beforehand. It is folly to waste the utensils used this year, because you may have just as profitable use for them next Spring as you have had this. And it will be the hight of folly to expect to make sugar from 8 rghum miless you take a stitch time. The same vessels used for sap-hol 22 of the boilers will answer for the juice of the new caues; you must have a crushing mill, and that at first should be obtained by several neighbors clubbing together,